

REMARKS

Claims 1, 18, 20, 23-24 and 27-30 are pending. Claims 2-17, 19, 21-22, 25-26 are cancelled herein. Claims 18 and 24 are amended herein.

The Examiner has requested restriction between claims of:

Examiner's Group I: claims 1, 27-30 and claim 24 (in part);

Examiner's Group II: claims 2, 6, 7, 15 and 24 (in part);

Examiner's Group III: claims 8, 9, 17 and 24 (in part);

Examiner's Group IV: claim 11;

Examiner's Group V: claim 13;

Examiner's Group VI: claim 14;

Examiner's Group VII: claims 18, 20 and 23 (in part);

Examiner's Group VIII: claims 18, 20 and 23 (in part);

Examiner's Group IX: claims 21 and 22 (in part); and

Examiner's Group X: claims 21 and 22 (in part).

The Examiner also suggested that Group I and one of Groups VI, VII, or X may be examined together. The Examiner also suggested that Group II and one of Groups IV, VIII, and IX may be examined together.


Applicants hereby elect the Examiner's Groups I and VII for prosecution on the merits in this case. With respect to the species requirement imposed by the Examiner, Applicants offer that it would not be unduly burdensome on the part of the Examiner to examine all species of the elected Group. However, for the sake of progressing prosecution on this case, Applicants elect the species of SEQ ID NO:2.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (336) 387-1443 to discuss this case, if desired.

Applicants timely submit this paper and therefore believes that no fees are due. In the event that any fees are payable, Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees due to Deposit Account 50-4389.

Respectfully submitted,

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